

Atty. Dkt. No. 023727-1701

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A latch system for a container, the container including a first section and a second section, the latch system comprising:
 - a deflectable pin coupled to the first section; and
 - a latch coupled to the second section, the latch including a deflectable pin engaging member;wherein the deflectable pin is configured to absorb relative compression movement between the first section and the second section.
2. (Original) The container latch system of claim 1, wherein the deflectable pin is mounted to the bottom section and the latch is coupled the top section.
3. (Original) The container latch system of claim 1, further including:
 - a deflectable pin stop positioned adjacent to the deflectable pin;wherein the deflectable pin stop is arranged to stop the deflection of the deflectable pin.
4. (Original) The container latch system of claim 1, wherein the deflectable pin is mounted to the top section and the latch is coupled the bottom section.
5. (Original) The container latch system of claim 1, wherein the container is substantially waterproof and substantially airtight.
6. (Currently amended) A latch system for a container, the container including a first section and a second section, the latch system comprising:
 - a latch pin mounted in the first section; and
 - a deflectable member mounted in a latch, with the latch pivotally coupled to the latch pin so that the deflectable member is positioned between the latch pin and the latch;

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wherein the latch is structured to removably engage the second section, and the deflectable member is configured to absorb relative compression movement between the first section and the second section.

7. (Original) The latch system of claim 6, wherein the deflectable member is structured to resist relative movement between the latch and the latch pin.

8. (Original) The latch system of claim 6, wherein the deflectable member is structured to provide a means for adjusting the force required to pivot the latch about the latch pin.

9. (Original) The latch system of claim 6, wherein the deflectable member is a bushing.

10. (Original) The latch system of claim 6, wherein the deflectable member is a cylindrical bushing that includes a plurality of deflectable ribs positioned substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the cylindrical bushing.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) The latch system of claim 6, wherein the latch system secures the first section against the second section so that the container is substantially waterproof and substantially airtight.

13-24. Cancelled.

25. (Currently amended) A container including a first section and a second section, the container comprising

deflectable latch means for releaseably coupling the first section to the second section and for absorbing relative compression movement between the first and second sections when the first and second sections are coupled together, wherein the deflectable latch means comprises a deflectable pin coupled to one of said first and second section of the container; and

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a latch coupled to the other of said first and second section of said container, the latch including a deflectable pin engaging member;

wherein the deflectable pin is configured to absorb relative compression movement between the deflectable pin and the deflectable pin engaging member.

26. (Currently amended) A container including a first section and a second section, the container comprising

deflectable latch means for releaseably coupling the first section to the second section and for absorbing relative compression movement between the first and second sections when the first and second sections are coupled together, wherein the deflectable latch means comprises

a latch pin mounted in the first section; and

a deflectable member mounted in a latch, with the latch pivotally coupled to the latch pin so that the deflectable member is positioned between the latch pin and the latch;

wherein the latch is structured to removably engage the second section, and the deflectable member is configured to absorb relative compression movement between the first section and the second section.

27-28. Cancelled.

29. (Previously Presented) The latch system of claim 6, wherein the deflectable member is comprised of a material selected from the group consisting of plastics and rubbers.

30. (Previously Presented) The latch system of claim 6, wherein said deflectable member is comprised of a metal.